



International Mobile Satellite Organization

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Twentieth Session

11 – 13 December 2007

Agenda item 5

IMSO/AC/20/5.2

Origin: Director

Date: 3 December 2007

GLOBAL MARITIME DISTRESS AND SAFETY SYSTEM (GMDSS)

DRAFT REFERENCE PUBLIC SERVICES AGREEMENT

<i>Executive Summary:</i>	this document discusses amendments to IMO Resolution A.888, now adopted by the IMO Assembly as Resolution A.1001(25), and consequential amendments to the draft Reference PSA and the present PSA between IMSO and Inmarsat
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	to note that the Director will review the present PSA texts, for consideration by a future session of the Committee and subsequent submission to the Assembly
<i>Related documents:</i>	none

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 At its Eighteenth Session, in September 2006, the Assembly noted without discussion the Draft Reference PSA and the alternative text, both of which had been agreed by the Advisory Committee at its Thirteenth Session, and “*decided that the Director will work in consultation with the Advisory Committee to develop the draft Reference Public Services Agreement to take account of any decisions which may be taken by IMO in respect of evaluation and recognition, for approval by the Assembly*”.

1.2 Subsequently, the Advisory Committee, at its Nineteenth Session (4-5 July 2007), noted, *inter alia*, that, “*as revisions to IMO Assembly resolution A.888(21) on Criteria for the provision of mobile-satellite communication*

systems in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and consequential amendments to SOLAS, Chapter IV, have an impact on the text of the draft reference Public Services Agreement, any corresponding amendments will be incorporated by the Director and circulated to the Committee after MSC 83."

2 AMENDMENT OF IMO RESOLUTION A.888(21)

2.1 At its Eighty Third Session, held in October 2007, the IMO MSC 83:

.1 "... considered document MSC 83/13/2 (Norway), containing a proposal to amend the Criteria for the provision of Mobile Satellite Communication Systems in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) (resolution A.888(21)), to ensure that the level of safety of life at sea was not diminished by the introduction of new satellite systems for future use in the GMDSS and that satellite system providers should have an obligation to grant MRCCs direct access to their systems."; and

.2 "... approved the draft Assembly resolution on Criteria for the provision of Mobile Satellite Communication Systems in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS), set out in annex 17, revoking resolution A.888(21) and MSC/Circ.1077, for submission to the twenty-fifth session of the Assembly for adoption." (MSC 83/28 paragraphs 13.5 and 13.6)

2.2 In addition, the expanded MSC adopted corresponding draft amendments to SOLAS chapter IV.

2.3 The IMO Assembly met from 19 to 29 November 2007 and adopted Resolution A.1001(25) on Criteria for the provision of Mobile Satellite Communication Systems in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS). This new Resolution establishes that mobile satellite communication systems for use in the GMDSS should fulfil the performance criteria adopted by IMO as contained in its Annex, and that the oversight of future satellite providers in the GMDSS should be undertaken by IMSO. Resolution A.1001(25) also revokes previous Resolution A.888(21) and MSC/Circ.1077.

2.4 The Director will review the present texts of the Draft Reference Public Services Agreement (Draft Reference PSA) and the present PSA in force between IMSO and Inmarsat, make any consequential amendments that may be necessary to accommodate the texts with the content of the new Resolution A.1001(25), and circulate those texts to the Advisory Committee for consideration and subsequent submission to the Assembly, in accordance with the decision of the Assembly at its Eighteenth Session (paragraph 1.1 above).

3 ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee notes that the Director will review the present texts of the Draft Reference Public Services Agreement (Draft Reference PSA) and the present PSA in force between IMSO and Inmarsat, make any consequential amendments that may be necessary, and circulate those texts to the Advisory Committee for consideration and subsequent submission to the Assembly, in accordance with the decision of the Assembly at its Eighteenth Session (paragraph 1.1 above).
